

Message Text

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21

ACTION OES-06

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IN, US

SUBJECT: GOI POSITION ON NUCLEAR FUEL RESUPPLY

THERE FOLLOWS THE TEXT OF THE INDIAN NEWS SERVICE REPORT
DATED APRIL 2 OF THE DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER'S RESPONSE
TO QUESTIONS IN THE RAJYA SABHA ON NUCLEAR FUEL SUPPLIES:
"THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO FULFILL ITS
CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT OF 1963 REGARDING SUPPLY OF NUCLEAR
FUEL TO INDIA, THE DEPUTY EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER MR. BIPIN
PAL DAS, SAID IN THE RAJYA SABHA TODAY.

"HE TOLD MR. BHUPESH GUPTA AND OTHERS THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF
INDIA'S POSITION REGARDING A DOMESTIC CONTROVERSY' IN
AMERICA ON EXPORT OF NUCLEAR FUEL TO INDIA HAD BEEN SUITABLY
EXPLAINED THROUGH AN AIDE MEMOIRE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AND THE QUESTION OF FURTHER SUPPLIES WAS PRESENTLY UNDER
THE CONSIDERATION OF THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION.

"MR. DAS SAID IN EARLY MARCH THREE DOMESTIC GROUPS IN
AMERICA HAD FILED A PETITION BEFORE THE COMMISSION CHALLENGING
THE EXPORT OF NUCLEAR FUEL TO INDIA. THIS PETITION HAD
RECEIVED THE SUPPORT OF A NUMBER OF U.S. CONGRESSMEN.

"REFERRING TO MR. BHUPESH GUPTA'S SUGGESTION THAT THE
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GOVERNMENT TAKE STEPS UNDER THE INTERNATIONAL LAW AGAINST THE

UNITED STATES MR. DAS SAID "WE DO NOT PROPOSE TO INVOLVE OURSELVES IN THEIR DOMESTIC CONTROVERSY."

"WE EXPECT THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL FULFILL THE CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT" HE SAID.

"MR. DAS ADMITTED THAT DUE TO THE CONTROVERSY SUPPLY OF NUCLEAR FUEL TO INDIA MIGHT BE DELAYED. PUTTING INDIA INTO DIFFICULTY.

"BUT, HE SAID, THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAD NOT NOT TAKEN ANY FINAL DECISION REGARDING NON-SUPPLY OF NUCLAR FUEL TO INDIA." END QUOTE.SCHNEIDER

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